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ECLA TO CREATE MONETARY FUND WITH ARAB CAPITAL

PY171453 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0510 GMT 17 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] A Latin American monetary fund will be created with Arab capital during the 18th session of the Economic Commission for Latin America [ECLA] [to be opened on 23 April 1979], in accordance with a suggestion made by the Peruvian Government to which this country [Bolivia] has officially agreed.

Foreign Minister Raul Botelho has officially announced to Peru his willingness to support the project to create the Latin American fund which would replace the International Monetary Fund. The creation of the fund will allow Bolivia to refinance its foreign debt, assessed at $2.8 billion, under more favorable conditions, the foreign minister explained.

He revealed that the Arab countries have shown interest in investing in Latin America. He pointed out that the United Arab Emirates have made huge investments in Europe, Africa and Asia.

He said that the creation of the Latin American monetary fund will have very favorable effects for Bolivia and all Latin American countries, because it may grant "softer" credits than those offered by other international financing organizations.

BOLIVIA PROPOSES L.A. DEVELOPMENT FUND

PY190336 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1955 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY

[By Rene Villegas]

[Excerpt] La Paz, 18 Apr (LATIN)--Bolivia proposed today to the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) the creation of a Latin American fund for the development of basic products, in view of the existing interdependence of nations which hinders a better exploitation of potential. This initiative was proposed by Col Gary Prado Salmon, Bolivian planning and coordination minister, when he opened the technical talks today of the 18th session of this regional organization created by the United Nations. The negotiations will continue on Monday with the study, at ministerial level, of Latin American problems as a decade is concluding and another is about to start--one which has been noted as a particularly critical decade for the region.

Prado Salmon delivered the main speech of the ceremony, which was attended by technical representatives from the great majority of the 32 ECLA member countries, and by observers from financial organizations and international economic organizations.

Earlier, ECLA Executive Secretary Enrique Iglesias noted the importance of the meeting in which, he said, Latin American nations will give their views on the economic and social development they have achieved and their perspectives on the next decade. In reviewing the present international economic situation, Iglesias stated that there are serious problems that must be solved, particularly in the Latin American region. Later at a press conference Iglesias said: Latin America needs to strengthen its defenses to get through the forthcoming critical international situation, but this is not intended to promote its isolation.

The ECLA conference that started today revealed the first evidence of the possible important steps that will be taken within the framework of this 18th assembly, which will last until 25 April.

In his extensive speech, which included categorical statements regarding inter-American relations and the industrial world, Bolivian Minister Prado Salmon made two important proposals to the organization. After denouncing the constant economic aggression by the United States against Bolivia through the manipulation of the markets and prices of its main exportable product, tin, the Bolivian minister proposed the need to establish a Latin American fund for the development of basic products. He said: In practice, our countries have been stripped of their power, or what is even worse, we have been forced to depend on transnational companies to develop our basic products under conditions unfavorable to our interests and needs.

Prado Salmon also proposed, representing his government, the discussion and approval of a document on the economic and social relations of Latin America that will include the principles that must be enforced in the new Latin American economic order. Prado Salmon said: It must be said frankly and clearly that Latin American commercial and economic relations, despite their relatively low level, show the same dangerous trend, the same unequal situation that we are trying to change at the international level.

L.A. PARLIAMENT DELEGATE ANALYZES HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM

PA181736 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Felipe Gonzalez, secretary of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party, fully agreed with the concept expressed by several delegates to the first assembly of the Latin American Parliament to the effect that the United States is responsible for the violation of human rights in America.

Felipe Gonzalez said that to a large extent the United States is to blame for the existence of dictatorial governments on the American Continent because it supports them. However, he said that the blame is shared by political leaders who do not give the popular classes an opportunity to participate in directing the destinies of their countries. this regard, Felipe Gonzalez said:

[Begin Gonzales recording] This analysis must also include something that requires great intellectual courage on the part of those officials who are meeting here; This analysis must include not only the subcontinent's dependence on the United States--and consequently the great influence that the United States wields in the political situation on the subcontinent--but also the errors that may have been committed by these countries and their political leaders in the process of democratization.

I believe that it is necessary to make an effort--and I think that every forum is a great opportunity for it, particularly this forum--to find specific political alternatives and, besides blaming others, to consider (?our) responsibility for the fact that in Latin America there still do not exist political alternatives that have a popular base [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Gonzalez said that Nicaragua is a symbol in the battle against dictatorships, and that Cuba may be the redemption of America.

GOVERNMENT DENIES PRESS REPORT ON TIMERMAN STATUS

FY181441 Paris AFP in Spanish 0524 GMT 18 Apr 79 FY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (AFP)--The Argentine Government denied tonight that President Jorge Rafael Videla had told the U.S. Embassy here that journalist Jacobo Timerman will continue under house arrest indefinitely. This report was published by the Washington POST, which appears in the U.S. capital, and was picked up by an international news agency and released in Buenos Aires.

The press director of the Public Information Secretariat, Col Mario Candido Diaz, said tonight that the information "is absolutely untrue."

COMMITTEE OF 25 REJECTS CNT PROPOSAL FOR MERGER

FY181456 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2319 GMT 17 Apr 79 FY

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (NA)--The Committee of 25 held a plenary meeting today at which it rejected the National Labor Commission's [CNT] proposal to merge the two organizations to obtain "unity of leadership," and will insist on fulfillment of the accord reached by the two groups in order to implement a common program through "unity of action."

The answer of the Committee of 25 will be conveyed formally to the CNT leadership tomorrow at a meeting at the headquarters of the millworkers union. Since the CNT has already stated that it will not accept "parallel leadership," the negotiations aimed at agreement between the two groups have reached a deadlock.

The meeting of the Committee of 25 merely confirmed the decision reached at noon by the 5-member leadership of the group during a meeting at which reports of alleged rifts were categorically refuted.

After conveying the rejection and a counterproposal to reassert the need to implement immediately the "unity of action" program, the Committee of 25 plans to hold another plenary meeting before the end of the week in order to assess the actions carried out so far and to decide on the course to be followed.

WORKERS AT OLIVETTI BEGIN 1-WEEK STRIKE ACTION

FY181446 Paris AFP in Spanish 1253 GMT 18 Apr 79 FY

[Text] Buenos Aires, 18 Apr (AFP)--Approximately 600 workers of the Olivetti enterprise are on strike, according to information released by union sources today. According to these sources, the strike began after a meeting that rejected a 30-percent wage hike offered by the enterprise because the workers are demanding 70 percent.

The factory, located in Merlo, 40 km west of Buenos Aires, has been totally paralized for the past week, and according to the union sources "there does not seem to be a tendency toward normalization because the enterprise refuses to show an understanding of the galloping inflation and the low salaries prevailing in Argentina."

YACYRETA STUDIES TO BE READY BY 30 JUNE

PY181535 Paris AFP in Spanish 0520 GMT 18 Apr 79

[Text] Buenos Aires, 17 Apr (AFP)--Argentine authorities are confident that the studies to be conducted to satisfy the Paraguayan request to modify the layout of the Yacyreta dam will be finished before 30 June, according to a statement made tonight by Bernardo Bronstein, Argentina's energy under secretary.

The official explained that fiscal year 1978-1979 ends at the end of that month for the World Bank, the institution that plans to grant a $210-million credit for construction of the Argentine-Paraguayan binational hydroelectric complex.

Bronstein added that another credit for the same amount has already been approved by the Inter-American Development Bank. However, he refrained from commenting on what future procedure would have to be followed for the World Bank loan in case the studies on the dam's new layout should last beyond 30 June.

The new layout for the dam is the result of a Paraguayan request that the amount of its territory to be flooded be less than originally established.

Reliable sources from the Argentine Foreign Ministry asserted that the consulting company, Harza Lahmeyer, in charge of the study, will complete its task in about 30 days.

The same sources stated that if there are modifications, "they would be in some sectors of the layout which have already been established," and Paraguay would recover 50 square kilometers of the 1,006 to be flooded.

In speaking about this aspect of relations between the two countries, the energy under secretary placed special emphasis on "Argentina's receptivity to the Paraguayan request to reduce as much as possible the land surface to be covered by Parana waters."

Bronstein, who called newsmen together to explain the outcome of his recent visit to Washington, where he presided over the negotiations with the IDB and World Bank, stated that "all the points discussed resulted in very satisfactory progress with respect to the granting of loans for construction of the dam.

The official stated that they studied the project contract which still has to be signed, "and total agreement has been reached on every one of the articles included in the legal and technical documentation,"

BRIEFS

ARES TO EUROPE--High-ranking leaders of the Justicialist Party have given a reception for former Interior Minister Roberto Ares, who is leaving for Europe. The vice president of the Justicialist Party, Deolindo Felipe Bittel, said the reception was a demonstration of unity among Peronists. [Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 17 Apr 79 p 8 PY]

CHILEAN ARMY SAID LAYING MINES IN BORDER AREA

PY181637 Paris AFP in Spanish 1618 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Cruro, 18 Apr (AFP)--Portions of the border with Chile have been mined by the army of that neighboring country. Col Rafael Tapia, commander of the 2d Division, reported this to the press here, 220 km south of La Paz. The military report concerns mined areas near border markers 8, 38, 40 and 41.

The Bolivian officer also reported provocations by the Chilean Army aimed at Bolivian troops protecting the border with the neighboring country.

INTERIOR MINISTER DENIES HARASSMENT OF BANZER'S PARTY

PY180326 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 0203 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpts] La Paz, 17 Apr (LATIN)--The Bolivian military government today ratified the enforcement of full guarantees to all political leaders and militants in the country, and rejected charges of alleged persecution by former President Hugo Banzer Suarez. The interior minister, Col Raul Lopez Leyton, said today there is complete freedom to carry out political campaigns for the general elections to be held on 1 July. Lopez Leyton rejected the charges made by the Nationalist Democratic Union (ADN) to the National Electoral Court regarding alleged activities of persecution, surveillance, control and interference being carried out by police against its leader, General Banzer.

The interior minister rejected the accusations made against his ministry and indicated the need not to repeat the errors of the past. He recalled that he experienced persecution and was sent into exile years ago and that there are now full guarantees for all citizens.

In answer to the alleged persecution and surveillance ordered by his ministry against the former president, Lopez Leyton said the ADN is seeing ghosts. He added, "I am not going to persecute anybody." He reiterated that the government will fulfill its commitment to carrying out a clean election in complete freedom. He said that after this commitment has been fulfilled, the armed forces will return to their barracks.

FOREIGN DEBT ESTIMATED AT NEARLY $4 BILLION

PY181418 La Paz INFOBOL Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 0546 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY

[Text] The accumulated contracted foreign debt this year will reach $3,683,000,000, since credits in the amount of $582 million have been contracted [since the beginning of 1979]. On 31 December 1978 the disbursed and spent foreign debt totaled $1,751,000,000, while the contracted debt totaled $3,101,000,000 on that date.

For this year, $862 million have been allotted to the central government, $266 million to the National Smelting Enterprise and $125 million to departmental administrations, to mention some of the major amounts.

BRIEFS

POLIO IN LA PAZ--The La Paz district health unit has reported the discovery of 34 polio cases in the city and provinces of La Paz Department. The death of a 2-year-old boy was also reported. [La Paz Radio Cruz del Sur Network in Spanish 2330 GMT 16 Apr 79 PY]

GOVERNMENT TO SUBMIT AMNESTY BILL LATER IN YEAR

PY181550 Paris AFP in Spanish 1453 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 18 Apr (AFP)--Brazilian Vice President Aureliano Chaves revealed here today that during the second half of this year the government plans to submit a bill to Congress proposing amnesty.

Chaves did not say whether this amnesty will be "broad, general and unrestricted," which is what some sectors of the Brazilian Democratic Movement [MDB]--the only legal opposition party in the country--have been requesting.

"This is something only the government can answer through its spokesmen," said the vice president. He emphasized that "by the second half of the year the government will have specific laws on the matter."

Air Minister Delio Jardim de Mattos praised the political relaxation process launched by Gen Joao Baptista Figueiredo's administration and said "political amnesty will not apply to those who perpetrated terrorist actions." He concluded by saying: "These people did not perpetrate political crimes, but rather crimes against humanity."

New Guidelines in Censorship

PY181509 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY

[Text] Censorship of books might be eliminated. Political subjects in theaters and cinemas will not be subject to censorship, but works offensive to moral decency will not be exempted from censorship. These are some of the new guidelines to be published Tuesday.

This is the deadline (Jose Vieira Madeiro), chief of censorship of the public entertainment division, received from Justice Minister Petronio Portella to prepare his working plans. These plans must follow the basic guidelines provided for by the justice minister. The censorship must be rated according to category.

The great danger lies, however, in the interpretation by the censor of what is and is not artistic. Thus, if the censor feels that "Emmanuelle" is an artistic film, it may be shown at art cinemas, but if he feels "Last Tango in Paris" is merely pornographic, it may not be shown in Brazil.

SENATOR PROPOSES DISSOLVING INTELLIGENCE SERVICE

PY190315 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY

[From "Congressional Report"]

[Text] Senator Humberto Lucena proposed today that Congress delegate powers to the president to draft laws aimed at dissolving the National Intelligence Service--SNI. He said this measure is both useful and necessary in view of the country's current political situation. He noted that the factors that led to the SNI's creation--that is, those needed to institutionalize a revolutionary movement--have undergone major changes over the 15 years that have elapsed since its creation.

BRIEFS

TRADE DEFICIT--Sao Paulo, 11 Apr (AFP)--The Association of Brazilian Exporters has predicted that the trade balance for 1979 will reach $1.2 billion. Brazilian exports so far this year have reached $14 million and imports $15.2 million. [Paris AFP in Spanish 1551 GMT 11 Apr 79 PY]

EXTRADITION DECISION NEAR; PROSECUTOR RECOMMENDS REJECTION

PY180110 Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1806 GMT 15 Apr 79 PY

[By Raul Oviedo]

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile, 18 Apr (LATIN)--Judicial sources reported today that the Chilean courts will issue a ruling on Monday on the extradition of three Chilean military officers requested by the U.S. Government in relation to the death of former Chilean Foreign Minister Orlando Letelier. The same sources added that Supreme Court Chief Israel Borquez, who is the judge in charge of the case, has a 5-day deadline starting today, Wednesday, to issue his decision after receiving a report yesterday from the court's prosecutor, Gustavo Chamorro. In his report, Chamorro declared that he is not in favor of granting the extraditions. The judge of the first instance will first have to make his decisions known to the accused, Gen Manuel Contreras (ret), former director of the dissolved National Intelligence Directorate (DINA); Col Pedro Espinoza, former DINA Operations Department chief; and Capt Armando Fernandez, former DINA agent. This notification will reportedly be made on Monday inthe presence of the defense attorneys. The three army officers are being detained at the Santiago military hospital. The ruling, whether it is appealed or not, will be disclosed next week by one of the (?chambers) of the Supreme Court. It is believed it will be issued by the First Chamber.

Prosecutor Chamorro based his decision declaring himself against granting the extradition on the bilateral extradition treaty signed by Chile and the United States. He noted that there are no legal bases for the Chilean courts to accept this request. Chamorro explained during a press conference that neither the judge of the first instance nor the court chamber that will review the case are obliged to consider his opinion. He admitted, however, that in most of the extradition cases that have been reviewed by the Chilean courts, the court chambers have agreed with the opinion of the prosecutor. He noted that there was a similar instance with the extradition process requested by the FRG against Walter Rauff, a former Nazi colonel. Moreover, Carlos Cruz Coke, the lawyer defending Capt Armando Fernandez Larios, told journalists: "In our defense we are presenting the same case--that the evidence submitted by the U.S. courts lacks the necessary elements of conviction. Furthermore, they lack the mandatory well-based presumptions. The prosecutor picked up our thesis."

It was stated here that if one of the chambers of the Supreme Court rejects the extradition request, none of the three army officers can be prosecuted by the Chilean courts. According to international legal expert Enrique Schepeler, there is no obligation to start a process against the army officers, since the court will have to base its case exclusively on the extradition treaty signed in 1900 by Chile and the United States. Schepeler noted: "It must be made quite clear that this is only true when the extradition of a Chilean citizen is rejected, since the treaty with the United States does not impose this obligation and none of the norms of the Bustamante Code or of the Montevideo Extradition Convention are applicable."

Women Protest Prosecutor's Recommendation

PY181912 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY

[Text] The Interior Ministry ordered the arrest of 56 women, presumably relatives of alleged missing persons, who carried out a demonstration in front of the Justice Ministry this morning to protest the recommendation made by the Supreme Court Prosecutor Gustavo Chamorro to reject the U.S. extradition request of Chilean officers in the Letelier case.

Interior Minister Sergio Fernandez said that the women were taken to the First Police Precinct to be processed by ordinary justice.

CHURCH REQUESTS MORE GOVERNMENT RESPECT FOR ARREST LAWS

PY181453 Paris AFP in Spanish 0543 GMT 18 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] Santiago, Chile, 18 Apr (AFP)--It was reported here today that the Chilean Catholic Church has asked the Supreme Court of Justice to demand from security services the strict fulfillment of laws related to arrests. Juan de Castro, Santiago vicar general and head of the Vicariate of Solidarity, submitted a 28-page plea to the president of the Supreme Court, Israel Borquez, asking the court to consider and rule on this issue as soon as possible. In his plea, De Castro asked the court to "instruct all the courts of the country to ask, from now on, all officials and police organizations--especially the National Information Center and other intelligence organizations of the armed forces and police--to strictly adhere to the legal provisions related to the arrest of persons." He also asked the court to update the regulations concerning the writ of relief, especially in order to reduce administrative requirements and steps.

NATIONAL INFORMATION CENTER REPORTS ON BOMB ATTACKS

PY190234 Santiago Chile Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Apr 79 PY

[Excerpt] Gen Odlanier Mena, director of the National Information Center, ONI, reported today that the bomb that exploded at the residence of the La Granja community mayor and another explosive device that was deactivated at the intersection of Jose Miguel Infantes and Rancagua streets were placed by members of the outlawed MIR [Movement of the Revolutionary Left]. He added that both attacks are under investigation, and that security personnel are looking for the perpetrators of the attacks.

BOLIVIAN PAPER REPORTS SOVIET BASE IN CHILEAN ANTARCTIC

PY190259 La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 12 Apr 79 Section II, pp 9, 10 PY

[By EFE correspondent Diego L. Hortelano]

[Excerpts] Santiago, Chile--While Gen Augusto Pinochet's government says it is a stanch enemy of communism, and Chile does not officially maintain diplomatic or trade relations with the Soviet Union, several Soviet "technicians"--who, according to certain sources, are KGB spies--operate a mysterious base on Chilean territory. Some people--the most stubborn enemies of international communism--say that this is a "bridgehead" that Russians have established to "smell out" the enormous underwater petroleum deposits located south of the Magellan Strait. Others refer to the Soviet enclave next to the Chilean meteorological station in the Shetland Archipelago as a station in which Russian experts are using advanced technology to extract oil which is later mysteriously loaded on submarines.

The southern Pacific region is the focus of international interest in view of the world oil crisis, and Chile is already undertaking efforts to exploit the "black gold" lying under the ocean. What does not make sense, considering the anticommunist bent of the Pinochet government, is that the Soviet Antarctic base is located only 50 meters from the Chilean base President Frei, operated by the Chilean Air Force. A Chilean officer said: "Nobody knows what the Russians are investigating here.

"Despite their cordiality, we know nothing more than the fact that they are dedicated to scientific, geological and geographic studies, and nothing else." The officer then added: "Every time we visit the Russian base, we can only go into certain areas. There are facilities there that we know nothing about. The Russians are careful not to show them to us."

There is no luxury in the Russian installations, and 11 scientists work there day and night. The Chilean officer we talked to said: "Eight of the Russian experts are from Leningrad and three from Moscow. We speak English with them. Most of the countries with bases in Antarctica send their men here for a year's stay at the most, but there are technicians at the Soviet station who have been here 5 years."

Powerful radio installations draw the visitor's attention on the Russian base. The Russians use them to talk to Moscow and Leningrad, but for official calls only. No Russian expert can talk in private with his family.

Although Russian experts and Chilean officers maintain daily contacts, no detail of the Russians' secret mission there has leaked, since contacts are made only in nonworking hours, and the Russians say no more than what they are allowed to show or tell.

There is a feature which draws attention as one visits the Russian station, and the Chilean officers described it in these terms. "Three hundred meters from the Chilean base, the Russian experts have built three huge tanks, which can be seen from a ship going into the Fildes Bay on Rey Jorge Island. The content of these tanks is oil, of all things." Chilean experts have been able to confirm that the tanks contain oil, but nobody can explain how the oil got there. However, they said: "We have calculated that each tank can hold something like 2 million liters of oil, and so the three tanks can store a total of 6 million liters."

The following question arises: Where do the Soviet experts get the oil? What use can they make of 6 million liters if there is no naval base or planes nearby that could bring the oil in or take it out? According to the Chilean officers, the strange and mysterious fact is that the Russians periodically refill the tanks, and nobody can tell whether the oil is consumed at the base or whether it is "exported" in tankers, since none has ever been seen at Fildes Bay.

There are two stories about the oil that "is there and then is gone," as the Chilean officers put it. One says that the Russian scientists are extracting oil by means of a revolutionary technique used to exploit a secret underground deposit; the other version says the tanks are periodically refilled by camouflaged pumps running from sea to land, so that oil can be made available to Russian submarines and other Soviet warships navigating these waters. The two versions are somewhat fantastic, but possible, considering that the USSR may have devised a secret method to extract undersea oil from deposits that may have been discovered in that area of the Pacific Ocean.

NOGUES PROPOSES NEW TRILATERAL ITAIPU-CORPUS TALKS

PY181521 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 18 Apr 79 p 12 PY

[Text] Alberto Nogues, foreign affairs minister, said yesterday that Paraguay is willing to hold new talks with Argentina and Brazil to try to reach an agreement favoring the interests of all three countries with regard to the Itaipu and Corpus dam projects.

Nogues told the press yesterday: "Our country is always willing to continue negotiations to seek an agreement to reconcile interests on Itaipu and Corpus." In this way, the foreign minister expressed hope for a speedy resumption of the talks, which reached an impasse months ago when differences arose between the positions of Argentina and Brazil on the bases for the final agreement that would make the two joint energy projects on the Parana River compatible.

He also emphasized that the national government has at all times expressed its utmost goodwill to achieve an understanding that would allow the countries involved in the two projects to carry them out without creating any obstacles.

The issue of contacts among Paraguay, Argentina and Brazil to resume negotiations became news again this week after statements by diplomatic sources in Brazil and Argentina and now by the foreign affairs minister of Paraguay.

Nogues yesterday held two important meetings in his office at Lopez Palace. He first received the Brazilian ambassador in Asuncion, Fernando Ramos de Alencar. The diplomat stated that only "routine" issues were discussed during the meeting but admitted that some remarks were made about future trilateral negotiations on the Alto Parana projects, Itaipu (Paraguayan-Brazilian) and Corpus (Paraguayan-Argentine).

Immediately afterwards Nogues received the Argentine ambassador, Gen Norberto Sergio Novoa, who said he spoke about Yacyreta, but did not deny that they had also talked about the next steps which have to be taken, especially at the diplomatic level, to resume negotiations among the three countries quickly.

At the beginning of this week it was reported that the three foreign ministries would establish positions, although only informal, ratifying their interest in resuming negotiations for an agreement for the harmonization of Itaipu and Corpus. The report came from reliable sources at Itamaraty, the Brazilian Foreign Ministry, and was corroborated by sources in Argentina.

BRIEFS

HOUSE SEARCH AUTHORIZED--Criminal Judge Arnaldo Alvarez has authorized a request filed by the Vigilance and Crime Directorate of the Police Investigation Department to search some houses where police claim stolen merchandise and drugs are stored. The commercial firm Franparimpex is said to have books of a subversive nature in its warehouse on Victor Eduardo Haedo Street. The judge also ordered the police to submit to him a complete report on any action taken, which the judge instructed should be carried out in daylight hours. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 17 Apr 79 p 21 PY]

DELEGATION TO FAR EAST--The Ministry of Industry and Commerce is completing preparations for a trip by its chief, Delfin Ugarte Centurion, to Taiwan and Japan at the head of an economic delegation. He will be accompanied by the head of the technical cabinet, Emilio Ramirez Russo. [Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 16 Apr 79 16 PY]

GOVERNMENT TO ALLOW REOPENING OF SUSPENDED MAGAZINES

PA181502 Paris AFP in Spanish 0505 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Lima, 17 Apr (AFP)--The Peruvian Government will authorize the resumption of publication of 10 magazines that were closed in the past few months, Alfonso Baella, coordinator for the directors of the suspended magazines, told AFP. Baella said that the government will issue a resolution revoking the suspension of the magazines shortly.

Baella, who talked several times in the past few hours with Gen Pedro Bracamonte [name as received], chief of the National Information System (SINADI), said that the general had assured him that the authorization for reopening the magazines will be issued shortly.

GERMAN PAPER INTERVIEWS EX-PRESIDENT BELAUNDE

DW190928 Bonn DIE WELT in German 19 Apr 79 p 8 DW

[Manfred Neuber report on an interview with Peruvian ex-President Fernandо Belaunde Terry in Lima, date not given]

[Excerpt] WELT: Peru receives from Bonn the greatest development assistance among all Latin American countries. Is it true that projects are stagnating and funds are not used because there is too much red tape in Lima?

Belaunde: Yes, this is true. During my term of office everything worked more efficiently. The military people antagonized the Germans, for example, by transferring orders to Hungary. The result is poor.

WELT: What do you think is the reason for the drop in German private investments?

Belaunde: The diminished security and the miserable economic situation.

WELT: The International Monetary Fund has imposed hard requirements on Peru for further credits. Do you feel the social price is too steep?

Belaunde: Yes. Although I respect the economists, their medicine for recuperation sometimes kills the patient. The Peruvian people cannot bear any further price hikes.

The ex-president voices disapproval of over arming with Soviet weapons. "The better the diplomacy of a country the less it needs to spend on arms purchases," he states. He sees emotionalism but no real danger of war in the tensions marking the 100th anniversary of the Pacific war involving Bolivia, Chile, and Peru.

Time and again, Belaunde revers to his concept of "popular cooperation." Nothing can be achieved in Peru with the development models of other countries. His party is "authentically Peruvian" and pursues a system which he paraphrased as a "mixed economy."

WELT: Will a civilian government be able to achieve the restoration of the country without the backing of the armed forces?

Belaunde: The army plays an important role in our country. It lends discipline and organization. Apart from the coup by which I was overthrown, I have no bad recollections.

MAJOR AGRICULTURAL POLICY CHANGE ANNOUNCED

PA190424 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2230 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[By Ruben C. Jauregui]

[Excerpt] Mexico City, 18 Apr (EFE)--Mexican land reform, decreed after a revolution that cost a million lives, is about to experience modifications which will result in the creation of production units similar to those opposed in 1910. Antonio Toledo Corro, agrarian reform secretary (minister), told newsmen in this capital today that the changes will permit associations among "small landowners." This means that, in practice, the illegality of large landholdings--so far strongly but futilely attacked by leaders of very poor, landless peasants--will disappear.

Some analysts understand that the authorization to create productive units means the virtual cancellation of land reform, at least in the [words indistinct] it was designed with the motto "land for he who works it." However, other commentators view the announced measure merely as the recognition of a phenomenon which in practice has been existing for a long time with the accumulation of large extensions of "small properties."

The current agrarian law has no effect on the "small properties," which have a maximum extension of 100 hectares of irrigation area although they can be more extensive in other types of terrain. Currently many prosperous farmers exploit vast plots of land of several "small properties" titled to each of their children, relatives and friends. In effect, the administration decided to encourage associations among "small owners" pressured by the need to increase agriculture and livestock production, regrettably stagnant for some time.

The stagnation of agriculture, combined with the high demographic growth rate, forced Mexico to import $864 million worth of agricultural goods last year. That figure will rise so high during the next few years, if agricultural production is not increased, that food imports will eat up a large part of the oil windfall profits.

For that reason, the government has given signs of being ready to make available any facilities to increase agricultural production levels. Minister Toledo Corro said that associations of "small owners" will be encouraged even among relatives, a thing which was the focus of constant protest by landless peasants. Currently one of the causes that is keeping agriculture stagnant is that small owners avoid working large plots of land for fear of confiscation.

RELATIONS WITH COMMONWEALTH OF DOMINICA ESTABLISHED

PA191223 Paris AFP in Spanish 0408 GMT 19 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Mexico City, 18 Apr (AFP)--It was announced here today that Mexico and the Commonwealth of Dominica have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at embassy level. The Commonwealth of Dominica is a 751-square-mile island with a population of 75,000 located in the Caribbean between the French islands of Martinique and Guadaloupe. This country obtained its independence from Great Britain on 3 November 1978.

COMMENTARY HAILS ROYO'S FIRST 6 MONTHS IN OFFICE

PA180246 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 17 Apr 79 PA

[Station commentary: "Six months of government"]

[Text] It seems (?a shame) to deprive oneself of the pleasure of drawing a balance of Dr Aristides Royo's work as president of the Republic 6 months after he took office. Human as we are, we do not see why we should deprive ourselves of that pleasure. Some give assurances that much has been accomplished. Others contend that almost nothing has been done and still others, the perennially noncommital, claim that it is still too soon to evaluate the government's work.

A business representative may be right about this. During a television interview, he said, without having all bases for judgment available, it would be unfair to draw a conclusion. Since no one has all those bases available, any evaluation made right now of Dr Aristides Royo's work as president will be partial and necessarily subjective. That is not bad. What is bad is solely negative criticism which is bent on seeing the world and its events from a narrow, small-minded standpoint. If half a year is a short time to appreciate fully and fairly the work of a 6-year government, no one in Panama can deny two things: the revolution has not stopped and the revolution is advancing.

The past 6 months have also given firm responses to the disbelievers and to those who might have expected things would be inclined to run counter to Gen Omar Torrijos Herrera's guidelines. On the contrary, it must be admitted that Dr Aristides Royo's work of government has been marked by measured steps, steady and solid steps which, far from relegating the figure of the leader of our revolutionary process to a secondary status, have been able to perceive him as a catalyst of the highest ideals of our revolutionary process.

Dr Royo has not tried to steal the show with the essentially silent accomplishments of the past 6 months. On the contrary, it would seem he has wanted to take personal responsibility for all that could not be accomplished during this time. If the president has stood out in the national life in the past few months, it is due more to the fact that he has much more to do in light of the new political realities than to the desire to be the good-looking movie good guy.

No one can deny that Dr Royo has tried to project an image of government teamwork and effectively so by delegating functions and expanding the radius of action of the executive branch to include the ministers. And the president has done all this with and without the party to which he belongs, in and outside that organization. President Royo has won respect for the presidency and, in just 6 months, this is a record. All the special circumstances of our process which led to an estrangement of the presidential figure from the limelight of the country's political life for 10 years. [sentence as heard] The government has won confidence and credibility in sectors which until recently were not fully convinced of the clear-cut objectives of the process. This accomplishment is undoubtedly due to the seriousness that has been impressed on the president's work. Six months later, far, very far from forgetting the president's inaugural speech, the president's guidelines have been institutionalized as specific guidelines to achieve the objective of the process.

Results are already visible in many fields, but let us cite only one example. Setting his administration's work within the framework of the policy of rationalizing public spending in order to produce more by spending less, the sugarmills of La Victoria Sugar Corporation saved the state during this year's harvest more than .5 million balboas in fuel which was replaced by sugarcane byproducts.

This means that work is being performed efficiently. This is seriousness, and the government makes this felt in all areas of public administration. The confidence projected by the national government on an international level was manifested in the letter that U.S. Ambassador Ambler Moss sent to the president of the Republic, confirming his optimism in the country's economic future without ignoring that problems related to inflation and economic recession are not quite a bed of roses. The opposition which thought it would be impossible to achieve the transfer of government from General Torrijos to Dr Royo seems to be the only thing off the mark in this game. While the revolution becomes solid, the opposition seems destined to dilute itself in an artificial rhetorical game which no longer convinces even its own followers. At the same time that conspiracy is left fatherless.

In sum, Dr Aristides Royo's presidential mandate, seen from the inadequate standpoint of the past 6 months, should be viewed as the first months of a new stage of our revolutionary process which does not stop and which, for the benefit and glory of the Panamanian people, is destined to last for many years to the disgust, of course, of those who watch the days go by without doing anything but criticizing others.

Naturally, we do not ignore the many real or artificially contrived obstacles that will arise along the course of the president's work of government. By no means do we underestimate the desire for power of the internal and external enemies of the process, for we do not underestimate anything that they might do to impede, together with their foreign allies, the orderly entrance of Panamanians into the Canal Zone next October. However, this is a people who have repeatedly shown signs of maturity and firmness in the consolidation of this process which, as has been stated, will not take a single step back as far as its basic principles are concerned.

FEP OPPOSES BAN ON STUDENT LEADERS' SCHOOL REGISTRATION

PA190244 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Eloida Martinez interview with Federation of Panamanian Students Secretary General Mario Panther; date and place not given--presumably recorded]

[Excerpt] [Question] Federation of Panamanian Students [FEP] Secretary General Mario Panther is with us. We want to ask him what the FEP's position is with regard to the measures adopted by the Education Ministry not to allow certain student leaders of the group to register in certain schools.

[Answer] The Federation of Panamanian Students flatly rejects and condemns the measures that have been adopted against student leaders which do not permit them to register at their high schools, the schools in which they have been studying. We do this as a matter of principle. We think it is not fair that the student movement which [words indistinct] and sacrifice for the sake of the national liberation struggle, precisely because of its militancy in favor of the process. For the militancy, it has waged to advance the national liberation struggle for the transformation and democratization of learning.

Those same student leaders are now being affected at certain high schools. This attitude has been assumed by some principals, by some teachers' sectors which are trying to seek a confrontation between the student movement and the teachers movement. We will never yield to a confrontation. The Federation of Panamanian Students will definitely remain firm in its stand that the student leaders must be admitted to their high schools.

COSTA RICA

TROOPS ALERTED AT BORDER OUTPOSTS LAST WEEK

PA171558 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1100 GMT 17 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Commanders of the national public forces had to mobilize a number of troops in the face of armed clashes on Nicaraguan territory that occurred at locations very close to the border apparently between the Sandinist National Liberation Front and the Somozist National Guard. Minister of Public Security and Government Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey said that this action basically took place at Penas Blancas, where there is calm. The minister said that fighting was heard in Sapoa and Ciudad Colon, where an alert was called. However, since nothing developed, the alert was later called off and nothing has happened since.

Public forces may have been surrounded. An informant who chose to remain unidentified for fear of reprisals commented that last week, on Monday night at approximately 2100, they had been surrounded by National Guard troops who were patrolling around the base of Hill 353 in the border area. He explained that from above they had seen a large number of troops coming up the hill. However, the matter did not develop further. An alert was called and the troops of the garrison received (?orders) to [word indistinct] as best they could.

CARAZO CALLS FOR ORGANIZATION OF OIL IMPORTERS

PA181411 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0446 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 17 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo today, Tuesday, proposed here the immediate creation of a regional organization of petroleum-importing countries. The Costa Rican president said during a news conference that the governments of Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Colombia and Spain have already signed an agreement to this effect. Carazo said: "Such an organization is not an easy or simple task because it must cover many world regions since it is impossible to convoke a world meeting every time the oil exporters meet." Carazo explained that the organization must be formed on a regional basis so that every time the oil exporters meet and decide to indiscriminately increase oil prices the importers can issue an immediate response.

The Costa Rican president said that the proposed organization "is a must. We cannot exist when continuous oil price increases produce immediate material poverty among the people." Carazo said that there must be a clear and firm position aimed at protecting the poor countries at the forthcoming meeting of the Latin American Energy Organization (OLADE). The chief of state said the oil-producing countries must guarantee importers "a regular supply of oil at prices not based on the speculation to which multinational companies resort, hurting economies." Carazo noted that "the different prices that may exist between consumer countries and OPEC must be based only on increases on normal expenditures and on normal earnings and not on speculation."

"Costa Rica," he stated, "will work so that the poor countries that import oil will not have to continue lowering their heads to later react to an incurable ill." Carazo maintained that "while it is true that oil is a resource that must benefit those who possess it, it is also true that it is a resource of mankind. The poor nations must not be subjected to price pressures to feed the aspirations of those who have it."

Carazo also refused to agree that the countries that produce and export oil have the right to exert price pressure on the poor countries, as they do with the rich nations that defend themselves by increasing the prices of their manufactured products.

4,000 GOVERNMENT WEAPONS REPORTED IN PRIVATE HANDS

PA182005 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Text] San Jose, 18 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican Deputy Carlos Pereira Garro of the governing party has reported that at least 4,000 government weapons, primarily M-76 submachineguns and M-1 carbines, are in the hands of private citizens [words indistinct] public administration has that number of combat weapons, which are used here exclusively by the civil guard.

The deputy also reported that between 1970 and 1976, 31 Garand rifles and 85 M-1 carbines disappeared from the government arsenal. He added that of 6,000 M-1 carbines bought during the Daniel Oduber Quiros (1974-1978) administration, 1000 have disappeared, as well as another 97 M-76 submachineguns.

It is customary in Costa Rica for the public security ministry to lend weapons to prominent private citizens, whether or not they support the governing party, for personal defense. For this reason, every 4 years when there is a change of government, the new administration requests the return of weapons which have been loaned to officials and businessmen.

EL SALVADOR

COSTA RICAN PRESIDENT CARAZO ARRIVES

PA190223 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2358 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Text] San Salvador, 18 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio arrived this afternoon at the Ilopango International Airport located 10 km east of downtown San Salvador.

The president arrived from Guatemala with his entire entourage made up of Costa Rican Second Vice President Jose Miguel Alfaro, Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier, Juan Jose Echeverria Brealey, Hernan Saenz Jimenez and other officials.

The delegation arrived 15 minutes late at 1615 (2215 GMT) and immediately proceeded with the welcoming ceremonies. Salvadoran President Gen Carlos Humberto Romero expressed his hope that the talks will produce concrete results beneficial to the peoples of Costa Rica and El Salvador. He mentioned the need for rulers to come out against social injustice.

The welcoming ceremony was attended by students of the Republic of Costa Rica School. The Salvadoran chief of state said that he hoped this gesture would be interpreted by the visitor as a sincere expression of respect from Salvadoran children to their Costa Rican peers. In turn President Carazo Odio said that he felt assured of the success of his mission and asserted that the results of these talks would be beneficial to the two peoples.

The ceremonies took place at the airport apron and later they passed to the foreign ministry ceremonial room at this air terminal where the visitors signed the Golden Book for distinguished guests. After the ceremonies, the local and visiting government officials left for the presidential house.

GUATEMALA

COSTA RICAN PRESIDENT CARAZO ARRIVES

PA181532 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1522 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City, 18 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio arrived in Guatemala today, Wednesday, for a 7-hour visit. Carazo arrived at 0805 (1405 GMT) and was welcomed at La Aurora Airport by his Guatemalan colleague, Gen Romeo Lucas.

Report on Activities

PA182018 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1630 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Radio Reloj special correspondent William Cespedes report from Guatemala City--recorded]

[Excerpt] This is a direct and exclusive report from Guatemala City for Radio Reloj covering President Rodrigo Carazo's visit to Guatemala. The president of Costa Rica is accompanied by Economy Minister Fernando Altmann Ortiz, Finance Minister Hernan Saenz Jimenez, Foreign Minister Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier and Interior Minister Juan Jose Echeverria.

President Carazo left Tegucigalpa, Honduras, at 0730 this morning and was received by Guatemalan President Gen Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia, members of the diplomatic corps and Cabinet members at Aurora International Airport. Immediately after his arrival, the two heads of state held a meeting in the airport's main building, followed by a brief news conference with Guatemalan newsmen.

President Carazo and President Lucas Garcia are holding a private meeting this morning in which Carazo is briefing him on the subjects he discussed with the chief of the Honduran military governing junta. The earlier conversations with Honduran government leaders dealt with problems related to energy, coffee and banana prices, defense of sea resources, the attitude of multinational navigation companies trying to impose high tariffs on Central American countries, the promotion of African palm plantations, the use of the electromagnetic spectrum, commercial exchange and bilateral treaties.

Another issue which was discussed, some ministers revealed, was the economic situation created by the devaluation of the cordoba in Nicaragua, which seriously affects the economy of Central American countries, particularly Costa Rica's. However, nothing was said about what measures Costa Rica and the other Central American countries would take in connection with Nicaragua's economic situation.

Departure for El Salvador

PA182254 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 2217 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Guatemala City--Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio this afternoon traveled to El Salvador, the third stopover in his tour of Central America. The Costa Rican president made an official 7-hour visit to Guatemala during which he spoke privately with Guatemalan President Fernando Romeo Lucas Garcia. He was awarded the Order of the Quetzal in the grade of the Great Necklace. As occurred at his arrival at 0800 (1400 GMT), President Carazo was rendered military and protocol honors at his departure. Accompanied by President Lucas Garcia, he reviewed a military honor guard before boarding the private plane in which he is making his visit to Honduras, Guatemala and El Salvador.

During his visit to Guatemala, Carazo Odio and Lucas Garcia concluded an agreement to establish a common Central American front in the face of the OPEC fuel and crude price increase. Other agreements reached during the presidential meeting deal with strengthening and updating the mechanisms of Central American integration.

High-ranking officials of the government, the diplomatic and consular corps and Guatemalan Cardinal Archbishop Msgr Mario Casariego y Acevedo attended most of today's events, with the exception of the private meeting and the luncheon held for Carazao Odio and his retinue at the National Palace. Carazo Odio boarded the plane to El Salvador at 1525.

UNIDENTIFIED PERSONS ATTACK RADIO STATION

PA181915 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1649 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpts] Guatemala City, 18 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--The "Nuevo Mundo" radio station in this capital was attacked this morning with firearms. The attack resulted in material damage but there were no casualties. According to initial reports by radio station personnel, men riding a vehicle opened fire on the building housing the radio station and a movie theater. Bullets broke windows and hit furniture and other objects inside the building but no one was injured.

The radio station broadcasts the "El Independiente" news program daily whose reporters and directors have been continuously harassed by unidentified groups. Government Minister Donaldo Alvarez Ruiz said today that "specific orders have been imparted to determine who carried out this new attack against the freedom of expression."

HONDURAS

CARAZO DESCRIBES TALKS IN HONDURAS AS SUCCESSFUL

PA181529 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Excerpt] Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo arrived in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, yesterday afternoon and at 2000 he met with that country's military junta. The Costa Rican president described his talks as successful, adding that they had discussed the treaty between their two countries which is expected to go into effect soon. According to him, nothing specific was decided in connection with the creation of an organization of petroleum-importing countries since the report on the results of the meeting is only now being drafted. Lastly, he said that Nicaragua had not been a major issue during last night's talks.

President Carazo asked Honduran Military Junta Chief Policarpo Paz Garcia for technical assistance to organize peasant cooperatives and produce African palm trees. The Costa Rican president then reported on his contacts with Panama, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Colombia and Spain in connection with the oil producing countries' stand and on the reception accorded his efforts. The Honduran Government expressed its satisfaction and promised to join in these efforts.

For his part, Costa Rican Vice President Jose Miguel Alfaro stressed the spirit of solidarity that prevailed at the meeting with the Honduran Government when discussing the topic of the Central American Common Market. He added that the developing countries' need to adopt a firm stand in asking oil producers for adequate supplies and logical prices. Also discussed was the challenge the next World Radio Conference poses because of the risk certain countries are running of being left isolated and without frequencies.

Reporting on the meeting with Honduran Government officials, Vice President Alfaro said that the opportunities made available when a firm stand is held in defense of our seas' patrimonial resources were analyzed, as well as the need to join efforts in a policy to defend coffee and bananas. According to the vice president, the spirit of solidarity in which the talks between Honduras and Costa Rica were held will be very beneficial.

CARAZO DENIES MILITARY AXIS AGAINST COSTA RICA

PA181450 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0417 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 17 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Costa Rican President Rodrigo Carazo Odio said during a news conference that he does not believe "that a military axis is being formed against Costa Rica. Costa Ricans sincerely believe that any action in that direction is bound to fail. Besides, there is no reason for it because we do not have an army. Maybe for some countries it is important to have an army, but not for Costa Rica. We have always felt that anyone who tries to form an axis against Costa Rica is wasting his time because our institutions cannot be affected by any armed forces," he asserted.

In relation to Operation Checkmate carried out by Costa Rica's Civil Guard along the border with Nicaragua, which some Central American sectors feel has affected the Sandinist guerrillas and favored the Nicaraguan Government, President Carazo said among other things: "Fortunately, our country is free. The government does not worry about comments, especially if they are of a political character. We are committed by international treaties and the country's security to maintain neutrality in our territory and safety among our population." In this respect he said that Costa Ricans have always tried to see that no one uses their territory as a beachhead for invasion. Neither the Nicaraguan National Guard nor the guerrillas will be allowed to mistreat the people who live along the border.

He said it took a long time to get Venezuela to lend them 500 rifles "which were handed over to the Costa Rican Civil Guard to defend the border zones." Referring to the severing of diplomatic relations with Nicaragua in November, President Carazo explained that "they were severed the moment our territory and sovereignty were not respected and two civil guardsmen were killed on the border." In this respect he added that relations with Nicaragua "will not be restored so long as the problems which caused this situation prevail. As a nation, we have pride and we cannot have relations with a neighbor country that does not respect us."

NICARAGUA

SOMOZA CHARGES U.S. LACKS RESOLVE AGAINST COMMUNISM

PA190214 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2355 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Managua, 18 Apr (ACAN-EFE)--Nicaraguan President Gen Anastasio Somoza today said that the United States "has left each nation to defend for itself its democracy." Speaking over a national radio network, Somoza inaugurated the Ninth Congress of the World Anticommunist Youth League in a ceremony at the Ruben Dario National Theater in Managua. Anticommunist delegations from various countries are attending the congress to conclude Saturday.

Somoza said that those who disagree with the communist ideology will have to increase their efforts, particularly now when the world's biggest power, the country most identified as the bulwark of democracy and capitalism, has substantially changed its policy regarding the Soviets." [quotation marks as received]

He added that the United States has changed its policy of opposing the Soviets in such a way that it has placed all countries in a situation in which all peoples "who love their freedom will have to fight for it and defend their democracy."

SANDINIST ATTACKS REPORTED IN MASAYA DEPARTMENT

PA181609 Panama City Domestic Service in Spanish 1510 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Report from Managua by correspondent Pablo Candia]

[Text] The Sandinists continued attacking last night, this time in the southeast. Last night the Sandinist forces carried out four attacks in Masaya Department, located about 29 km from the capital. The first attack was carried out against the military post in the town of Catarina, Masaya Department. The post's soldiers asked for reinforcements, and these were sent from the neighboring city of Jinotepe. However, the reinforcement troops were attacked at a place known as La Olla de Barro, located between Niquinohomo and Catarina. This led to a 30-minute shootout. It is believed that both soldiers and Sandinists died there, but no information on this is available yet.

A second reinforcement troop arriving in Catarina was ambushed at the town's entrance. Two soldiers were killed and a basic training school lieutenant, who has been identified as Miguel Morales, was seriously injured. A fourth attack, again against the same Catarina post, was then carried out. According to unofficial sources, four soldiers died at the post. An army helicopter overflew the entire Masaya Department during last night and dawn today using flares to locate the attackers, who apparently escaped.

No official information on these attacks has yet been released by the National Guard's Legal and Public Relations Office, but a communique is expected within the next few hours.

Diria, near the attacked town of Catarina, has also reported that the Sandinists harassed the local military post last night, but no casualties have been reported on either side because the National Guard remained inside its garrison. Meanwhile, permanent Human Rights Commission Coordinator Jose Esteban Gonzales charged this morning that a masked man fired at his office last night but did not hit anyone.

The government has just announced that it will go into national radio network twice today. It has ordered stations to join the network at 1015 and again at 1600. The government is expected to make some statement in connection with the current situation.

FSLN DENOUNCES 'SOMOZIST' HONDURAN MILITARY MOVEMENT

PA182338 (Clandestine) Radio Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua 0400 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Text] A document signed by the so-called Honduran Armed Democratic Movement has begun to circulate. It speaks of giving military and economic assistance to the Somozist dictatorship. We have sufficient evidence to say that this group has been promoted by Dictator Somoza himself in complicity with extreme right Honduran militarymen such as Col Jose Jorge Solorzano. However, let it be clear to these Honduran Fascists that we have the support and solidarity of the Honduran people.

RAUL ROA ADDRESSES WORLD INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION IN PRAGUE

Chinese Policy, Mideast Accord

FL181123 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Raul Roa Garcia, vice president of the National People's Government Assembly, has denounced in Prague China's expansionist policy in Southeast Asia and condemned the separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. Roa, who heads the Cuban delegation to the council meeting of the World Interparliamentary Union being held in the Czechoslovak capital, pointed out that the Chinese invasion of Vietnam and the Egyptian-Israeli accords are part of the same plan of the international reactionary forces. The opening session of the meeting, which will hold working sessions until 21 April, was attended by Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak and more than 700 deputies from the 72 participating countries. The main report was read by (Thomas Williams), president of the union, who expressed his conviction that the Prague deliberations will be successful and one more step forward on the path toward lasting world peace.

African, L.A. Liberation Movements

FL182339 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 18 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Today in Prague, Cuba has reiterated its unconditional support for the national liberation movements in Africa and Latin America and has condemned the colonialist and neocolonialist regimes which still exist in southern Africa. Raul Roa Garcia, vice president of the National People's Government Assembly and member of the PCC Central Committee, heads the Cuban delegation to the World Interparliamentary Union conference which has been meeting in the Czechoslovak capital since yesterday. In speaking at the session on decolonization, Raul Roa expressed the need to redouble efforts to eradicate the effects of colonialism and its contemporary manifestations--neocolonialism, fascism, racism and apartheid.

MARSHAL USTINOV CONGRATULATES RAUL CASTRO ON GIRON VICTORY

FL181734 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 18 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Marshal of the Soviet Union Dmitriy Ustinov has sent a message to Army Gen Raul Castro, minister of the Cuban Revolutionary Armed Forces, on the occasion of the 18th anniversary of the Playa Giron victory. The USSR defense minister says in his message that the Giron victory is a symbol of the courage and heroism of the Cuban people. He adds that the defeat of the North American intervention of April 1961 is convincing testimony of the Cuban people's determination to defend their revolutionary gains and build socialism. I wish the Cuban soldiers, Ustinov says, new successes in combat and political training and in raising their military skills in order to strengthen their country's defense capability and the cause of peace and socialism.

LAOTIAN PRESIDENT RECEIVES MANUEL CESPEDES IN VIENTIANE

BK181240 Vientiane KPL in English 0920 GMT 18 Apr 79 BK

[Excerpts] Vientiane, 18 Apr (KPL)--President Souphanouvong, president of the Lao People's Democratic Republic, on the morning of 16 April received Manuel Cespedes Fernandez, minister of mining industry and geology, special envoy of President Fidel Castro Ruz, president of the Council of State and of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba.

On the same day, Vice Prime Minister, Minister of Finance Nouhak Phoumsavan received the Cuban minister and his party at the government house in Vientiane.

During the cordial and friendly conversation, Vice Prime Minister Nouhak Phoumsavan highly praised the government and people of Cuba for the active preparations for the sixth summit conference of non-aligned countries. This, he said, will further heighten the prestige of the Republic of Cuba in the international arena. The Lao party, government and people will do their best to make the said conference a great success, he stressed. Vice Prime Minister Nouhak Phoumsavan went on to say that the Lao party, government and people highly value the support and assistance that the fraternal Cuban party, government and people gave them during Laos' national salvation struggle against U.S. imperialism, as well as in the current period of socialist transformation and construction in Laos.

DORA CARCANO IN MONGOLIA FOR WOMEN'S MEETING

FL181946 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1939 GMT 18 Apr 79 FL

[Text] Dora Carcano, secretary general of the Federation of Cuban Women and alternate member of the PCC Central Committee, has arrived in the Mongolian capital to participate in the annual meeting of women's organizations of socialist countries. The meeting opens in Ulaanbaatar tomorrow, 19 April, and will last until Monday, 23 April.

CUBA TO COORDINATE L.A.- CARIBBEAN HEALTH TECHNICIAN TRAINING

FL181137 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 18 Apr 79 FL

[Text] The delegates to the first international workshop for the training of intermediate-level health technicians have selected Cuba as the coordinating center in that sphere as part of a cooperation program among Latin American and Caribbean countries. The meeting, which concluded last night in the city of Camaguey was sponsored by the Pan-American Health Office and the Cuban Public Health Ministry and was attended by specialists from Ecuador, Colombia, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, Peru, Venezuela and Cuba. Cuba's selection as coordinating center is due to the high degree of progress achieved by our country in training paramedical personnel.

COMMENTATOR CRITICIZES U.S. SUPPORT OF SOMOZA REGIME

FL190144 Havana Domestic Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 19 Apr 79 FL

[Carlos Mora Herman commentary]

[Text] In spite of all the efforts being made by the U.S. Government to prop up the Somoza dictatorship as it tries to find a type of government which suits its interests, the truth is that a situation such as the one existing today in Nicaragua cannot last much longer. The fear of tyrant Somoza and his henchmen has reached such a state that it is translated into bestial and genocidal acts such as those which occurred in the town of Esteli, which was occupied by the Sandinist National Liberation Front for one week. Esteli, a city of 15,000 inhabitants, is the cradle of Sandinism because Augusto Cesar Sandino, general of free men, founded a rural commune there. It has been the scene of the most cruel crimes committed by Somoza's soldiers.

According to reports from Esteli by foreign newsmen who entered with Somoza's troops, the savagery committed by the National Guard has been enormous.

Forty Sandinist combatants who were in the Esteli hospital were brutally killed. Several doctors were also killed by the National Guard, among them Dr (Davila Bolanos), a known Somoza opponent who was taken out of the operating theater by the guard while he was operating on a patient. A Spanish newsman was detained and beaten by the henchmen, and other foreign newsmen were badly treated and their working materials were confiscated. The daily LA PRENSA condemned the massive and summary shooting of hundreds of civilians by the Somoza troops who recaptured Esteli.

In addition to the aforementioned, the Red Cross has revealed the terrible situation of hundreds of children taking asylum in the Venecia neighborhood of Esteli who have been without even the most essential food for over a week.

While this was happening in Esteli and other places in Nicaragua, Anastasio Somoza was touring in the United States and on last Sunday, 15 April, was on the Face the Nation television program to slander his people and falsify the reality in Nicaragua to the North American public. Somoza returned to Nicaragua on the evening of Monday, 16 April, and held a press conference at Las Mercedes International Airport while his henchmen were killing people in Esteli. With the cynicism which characterizes that lackey-tyrant of the Yankees, he denied that genocide had taken place in Esteli; and he said this at the same time that international news agencies were broadcasting reports from their Nicaraguan correspondents that told of bodies burning in the streets, the destruction and razing of the city of Esteli and mass killing of the population by troops.

The United States has been making great efforts to prevent a democratic and popular government in Nicaragua from expressing the desires of 90 percent of the Nicaraguans. In their fear of revolution, they have propped up Somoza since the situation became openly untenable for the tyrant. Because they have been accustomed to managing Nicaragua according to their own whims through the Somoza dictatorship, they have fearfully watched how the situation has deteriorated since 10 January 1978, when Pedro Joaquin Chamorro, editor of the LA PRENSA daily of Managua and top opponent of Somoza at the time, was assassinated.

In search of a favorable solution to their interests, the Washington government has maneuvered to prop up the tyrant and his band of National Guard killers. Therefore, it is correct to state that the U.S. Government and President James Carter and his human rights boasts have come out badly as a result of these events. The Yankee government is responsible for the crimes which are being committed in Esteli, for the savagery unleashed by the National Guard and for the death of hundreds of sons of the Nicaraguan people who have decided to once and for all end a dictatorial regime that is maintained through crime and the most savage oppression.

COLOMBIA

GUERRILLA DISCOVERED IN ACT OF PLACING BOMB

PA181829 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1100 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Text] A guerrilla attempting to place a powerful bomb at the 5th police precinct in Cali, capital of Valle del Cauca Department, was shot to death by policemen who caught him in the act. Manuel Salvador Montoya Hernandez came to the police station to install the device. He was caught in the act and shot when he attempted to flee. The powerful bomb was designed to cause large-scale tragedy among Valle del Cauca policemen.

ECUADOR

DEFENSE MINISTER ACCLAIMS MILITARY UNITY

PA182347 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA

[Text] National Defense Minister (ret) Gen Andres Arrata Macias has said that the unity of the armed forces is unquestionable and magnificent and that there has been no change in the military climate prior to the elections to be held on 29 April. Arrata added that the questioned actions of several militarymen holding posts in the military government do not affect the armed institution because the errors that may have been committed by members of the armed forces while performing their government functions are their exclusive responsibility and they will have to answer for them to the country. The defense minister said that he respected the statement made by Supreme Court President Gonzalo Karolys Martinez, who feels that military law should not prevail in our country.

VENEZUELA

HERRERA DISCUSSES COLOMBIAN-VENEZUELAN RELATIONS

PA172337 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 17 Apr 79 PA

[Text] Caracas--Colombian-Venezuelan relations was the most important topic discussed between President Luis Herrera Campins and COPEI's National Committee during a meeting at the presidential residence today. The information was supplied by Dr Pedro Pablo Aguilar, COPEI's secretary general, who noted that there is really nothing substantial that could mar or affect the cordial relations that have always existed between two countries such as Colombia and Venezuela linked by close bonds.

Dr Aguilar said that by virtue of geographic, historic, cultural, spiritual, economic and social imperatives, Colombia and Venezuela must maintain most sincere and fruitful friendly relations. He added that two countries so intimately related cannot renounce their duty to solve their differences through bilateral negotiations.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADOR TO U.S.--Caracas, 17 Apr (VENPRES)--Dr Marcial Perez Chiriboga was sworn in today as new Venezuelan ambassador to the United States. [Caracas VENPRES Diplomatic Information Service in Spanish 2350 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA]

NIGERIAN OIL DELEGATION--Caracas, 17 Apr (AFP)--a Nigerian technical delegation arrived here on 17 April to study the Venezuelan oil industry. The Nigerians will study various techniques, particularly concerning safety standards and practices. The delegation is made up of military officers and technicians from that country and is headed by Col S. B. Akinola. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0529 GMT 18 Apr 79 PA]